



PRESERVATION SACRAMENTO

PO Box 162140, Sacramento CA 95816 – preservation.sacramento@gmail.com - PreservationSacramento.org

Councilmember Rick Jennings
Sacramento City Hall
915 I Street, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95816
February 10, 2023

RE: File ID: 2022-01966, Sacramento Zoo Entrance Structures (3930 West Land Park Drive)

Dear Councilmember Jennings,

The Board of Directors of Preservation Sacramento wishes to express their support for listing the hyperbolic paraboloids at the entrance to the Sacramento Zoo in the Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources. We request its hearing by the Sacramento City Council, and urge you to support its listing. Listing this property in the Sacramento Register will in no way impede redevelopment of the Zoo property, and the presence of a landmark is likely to facilitate and enhance any future reuse. The Zoo Entrance qualifies for the Sacramento Register under Criteria iii (distinctive characteristics of a type) and iv (work of an important creative individual or master) and retain sufficient historic integrity for listing, as the work of local architecture firm Rickey and Brooks.

Adaptive reuse, the principle of finding new uses for old buildings, is the principal reason for retaining the zoo entrance in a new project. Its presence links a new project to the history of the site, welcoming people to its new function as it has welcomed people to the zoo for generations. Many of the city's most successful historic rehab projects, including WAL on R Street and The Hardin on the 700 block of K Street, wedded historic buildings successfully to new construction.

Preservation incentives ranging from Historic Building Code alternatives to simplify rehab to State and Federal historic rehabilitation tax credits become available if the Zoo is listed. Because the Zoo entrance has already been identified as a historic resource, it cannot be demolished without a level of environmental review equivalent to listing in the Sacramento Register, so listing it as a landmark does not simplify subsequent demolition of the entrance. However, the incentives mentioned above are not accessible unless the building is a listed landmark. This landmark nomination is the result of a long-term effort, starting from an eligibility survey by Mead & Hunt and the advocacy of Sacramento Modern, with the enthusiastic support of local neighbors & neighborhood associations in support of listing.

Sincerely,

William Burg
President, Preservation Sacramento Board of Directors

Cc: Preservation Director Sean deCourcy